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Home Alone

Nothing beats a home-cooked meal! Jared was looking forward to his mother's cooking.

Although he knew Hannah and Gary weren't his biological parents, he still loved them the same.

"Mom?" Jared yelled out again after getting no response the first time.

"Where did they go? Have they gone out for a stroll?" Jared grumbled softly as he made his way into the dining room. That was when he saw a piece of paper on the dining table.

He picked it up and saw it was a letter written to him by Hannah.

He then read it out loud, "Your dad and I are moving back to our old house for a while. Please take good care of yourself. I've made some yummy dishes and kept them in the refrigerator. If you're hungry, you can heat them up. On a different note, please be nice to Josephine because she deserves that much. Your dad and I will not forgive you if you ever break her heart! While we are away, don't hesitate to bring Josephine over. With her care, I can at least not worry as much about you! Also, I'm looking forward to having a grandchild! Please see to it!"

Jared couldn't help but smile upon reading the letter. Now I know why they've moved back. It's because they want Josephine and me to have some time alone! As a matter of fact, it would be inappropriate for Josephine to move in while his parents were around because they weren't married yet.

Jared kept the letter. Well, it's safer for them to be away for a while, considering the enemies I've made. It's too risky to have them staying in Horington for the time being.

After that, he went to the refrigerator to grab some dishes before heating them up.

After the meal, Jared took out the jade pendant he had taken from the Whitaker residence. The pendant had a dark shade of green, and the finishing was pristine. What a nice jade pendant!

While Jared was checking the pendant out, he bit his finger and dripped a drop of his blood on it. Suddenly, the droplet of blood was absorbed by the pendant.

The corners of Jared's mouth curled into a smile upon seeing that. Then, he shut his eyes and held the pendant tightly with both his hands. With that, a faint golden aura was emitted from his grip.

While surrounded by a golden light, the pendant started floating in the air when Jared let go of it abruptly. In it, a dark swirl of energy was bouncing around.

Behind the dark shade of energy, a blood-red light was present. In an instant, it was as if the pendant had turned itself into a race track. Both shades of light were chasing after one another.

"Crush!" Jared uttered.

With that, Jared opened his eyes and directly shot a ray of light at the jade pendant.

Clank!

The golden light around the pendant disappeared, and it dropped to the ground. At impact, the pendant broke into two pieces.

As soon as the pendant split into half, a dark red droplet of blood was seen flowing out of it.

Jared picked up both the pieces and wiped the blood off one of them. He then mumbled, "This is good stuff!"

While holding both the pieces, he transferred some of his spiritual energy into them. After that, he found some red strings and tied them onto both the pieces.

With this, I'll know right away whenever Josephine is in danger! Not only that, it can even protect her from at least the first blow! Jared smiled and rang Josephine on the phone.

Jared had realized that no matter how strong he was, he couldn't be in two places at the same time. If something bad happened to Josephine, there was no way he could find out in time, let alone be there to protect her.

However, things would be different with the jade pendant. Not only did he infuse it with his blood, but he had also transferred some spiritual energy into it. Now that I have two pieces of it, I can protect her without even being near her! Both of us will have a piece of it each. With it, a telepathic link will be established. I'll know instantly if she's in trouble.

"Hey! What is it? Do you miss me already?" Josephine asked on the phone while still having her mouth full of food.

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Token Of Love

"Don't flatter yourself! I'm not missing you. I have something for you. Please come over to Dragon Bay!" Jared stubbornly denied it.

In actuality, they were both thinking about each other all the time.

"Hmph! You're so stubborn! What are you giving me? Why don't you send it here instead?" Josephine smiled.

"You need to be here to collect it personally! Hurry up!" Jared hung up the phone immediately after.

Jared had his reason for asking Josephine to visit him instead of sending the pendant over. He wanted her to know that he was alone at home and get her to stay with him.

Hmph! How dare he hang up on me! Josephine pursed her lips and changed before heading to see Jared.

Upon arriving, Josephine tidied herself up and put on a bright smile as she walked into the mansion. Since I'm going to see his parents, I must be presentable!

However, Josephine didn't see anyone around when she made her way into the living room. Instead, she only saw Jared coming out of the kitchen alone.

Josephine took another cursory glance around the house, looking for his parents.

If his parents were home, Josephine didn't dare to behave casually.

"Stop looking around! My parents moved back to their old house!" Jared flashed her a smile.

Upon hearing that, Josephine let out a sigh of relief.

It wasn't that his parents were difficult to be around. It was just that if there were elders present, Josephine would always be walking on eggshells. For her, it was important to always maintain a good impression.

Josephine pinched Jared's ear and asked, "How dare you hang up on me?" Since his parents weren't around, she was herself again.

"Ouch!" Jared howled before apologizing hurriedly, "I was wrong! I won't ever hang up on you again!"

Since Jared had already apologized, she let go of his ear at once. "What do you have for me?"

Jared took out the pendant. "Wear this. With it, I'll know immediately when you're in trouble!"

Josephine took the jade pendant and examined it. Baffled, she asked, "Why is it only half of it? Where's the other half?"

"Silly, the other half is with me!" Jared took out his half of the pendant and placed it side by side with hers. At that moment, a faint golden light could be seen flickering when both the pieces were reunited.

"Not bad!" Josephine flashed a smile before putting it on. "Who's making your meals if your parents aren't around?"

"You, of course! Otherwise, why would I ask you to come over?" Jared's mouth curved into a naughty grin.

Josephine rolled her eyes at him. "Why should I? We aren't even married yet. As a matter of fact, I'm not even your girlfriend! So why should I take care of you?"

"Well, you've accepted my token of love when you accepted the pendant. From now on, you're my girlfriend! Hence, you have to take care of me. Besides, my mom says so!" Jared passed her the letter written by Hannah.

Josephine couldn't help but blush uncontrollably when she read about how Hannah was looking forward to having a grandchild. She gave the letter back to him and said, "Since it's Mrs. Chance's instruction, then I guess I'll stay with you for a few days! Nevertheless, we must sleep in separate rooms! Don't you get hanky-panky with me at night!"

"Don't worry. Do I look like someone who would do such things?" Jared was over the moon upon hearing that Josephine would stay with him.

At that precise moment, Jared looked like a young man who had fallen in love for the first time despite the fact that he was actually a ruthless murderer.

That evening, Jared sat on the couch as he gradually absorbed the area's spiritual energy. Although it wasn't much, it was better than nothing. It was impossible to only cultivate when he had rare herbs with him.

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Burnt

As for Josephine, she was on her phone looking for recipes online to cook for Jared. Since she was brought up in a rich family, she had never been required to cook a meal in her life. Despite that, for him, she was willing to learn as she cooked, regardless of how hard it was for her.

Jared's eyes were filled with love when he saw Josephine busy making dinner for him in the kitchen.

Right at that moment, Jared's phone rang.

It was a call from Walter, and he asked courteously, "Mr. Chance, are you free now? General Long would like to meet you. He's the head of the Department of Justice in Summerbank!"

"Department of Justice? What do they want from me?" Jared frowned.

"I'm not sure about that. He just told me he's hosting a dinner party at Glamor Hotel, and he'd like you to be there!" At that point, Walter had no idea what Jared did in Summerbank. He was merely delivering Anthony's message.

"All right, I'll head there now!" Jared nodded and hung up the phone.

After that, he stood up and walked toward the kitchen to tell Josephine not to cook anymore.

As soon as he stepped into the kitchen, he was met with a dark cloud of smoke. Quickly, he went to the stove and took the pot away from the fire.

"Ah! What happened?" Josephine panicked when she saw the smoke coming out of the pot.

When Jared opened the lid, he saw the pasta was burnt to a crisp. The bottom of the pot was even covered with a layer of black residue.

Josephine then looked at Jared innocently after taking a glance at the pot. "Oops. I've forgotten to put water in the pot!"

Jared burst into laughter and exclaimed, "It's okay. We don't have to cook anymore. Someone has invited us to dinner!"

"Who?"

"Mr. Grange called and said General Long from the Department of Justice in Summerbank wants to meet me at Glamor Hotel!" Jared answered truthfully.

"General of the Department of Justice?" Josephine furrowed before widening her eyes anxiously. "Is this about what you did to the Whitaker family in Summerbank?"

With that, realization had finally dawned upon Jared. "That could be it!" I don't know him personally. Since he had requested to see me, something must be up!

"Then should we just bail?" Josephine's face was filled with anxiety.

"Don't worry. We should be fine." Jared reassured. Since I've already gotten rid of all the surveillance cameras, there's no way it could be traced back to me.

After getting changed, Jared and Josephine arrived at Glamor Hotel. To his surprise, there were other people invited to dinner as well. Since he didn't just invite me specifically, maybe he's not looking for me for what happened to the Whitaker family.

Indeed, William, Glen, and other influential people in Horington were also present. They were there to butter Anthony up since he was from Summerbank.

Everyone was greeting Jared as he walked in because almost everyone invited knew him. In response, Jared responded accordingly.

In one of the corners, Lizbeth was in her uniform as she carefully watched every movement of the attendees. She was stupefied when she saw Josephine.

She hurriedly walked up to her and asked in shock, "What are you doing here, Josephine?"

"Lizbeth? What are you doing here?" Josephine was equally shocked to see Lizbeth. She then cast a gaze upon Lizbeth's uniform and complimented, "You look good in your uniform!"

"I'm here to accompany General Long!" Lizbeth proceeded to size Jared up and queried, "Who's he to you?"

Josephine took a glance at Jared before shifting her gaze toward the pendant that was on her. "He's Jared. He's my boyfriend!"

Since she had accepted his token of love, their relationship was finally official. Josephine was ready to introduce him as her boyfriend.

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Responsibility

"Jared?" Lizbeth gasped in shock. "He's your boyfriend?"

"Huh? What's the matter?" Josephine questioned after seeing the look on Lizbeth's face.

"Lizbeth, this is Mr. Chance. He's the person you asked me to call, so now you've met him!" Walter suddenly strode over and smiled.

"Grandpa, why didn't you tell me Jared is Josephine's boyfriend?" Lizbeth frowned and grumbled.

"Well, you didn't ask! Besides, I had no idea if they had gone official. I wouldn't want to jump to conclusions, you know!" Walter answered helplessly before asking, "How do you know Ms. Sullivan?"

"Grandpa, I went to the same university as Josephine! Of course, I know her."

This time around, it was Josephine's turn to discover a baffling fact. "Lizbeth, Mr. Grange is your grandpa? Why didn't you mention that when we were in university?"

Back then, Walter was a renowned government official in Summerbank. It was safe to assume that a grandchild of such a prominent individual would be more than eager to show off. However, not once did Lizbeth mention it to Josephine.

"I didn't want anyone to know about my family background because I want to rely on my own capabilities!" Lizbeth explained.

"Lizbeth has always been a strong-headed girl! She never wanted to rely on others to get what she wants." Walter's heart was aching for her as he said that.

Upon sparing Lizbeth a couple of glances, Jared was impressed. Nowadays, all the youngsters are still relying on their parents to make a living. This girl is quite impressive.

"Grandpa, can't you see how good I'm doing, although I don't rely on anyone in our family? Don't worry about me, okay?" Lizbeth flashed a smile.

"Indeed! You're all right, Lizbeth. Keep up your good work with General Long. Who knows? Maybe one day you can even take his place!" Walter laughed and continued, "All right, I shall go over and greet the others. You guys carry on."

After Walter left, Jared and the others went to their seats. Lizbeth couldn't help but keep sizing Jared up. While doing that, she looked like she had a lot of questions for him.

"Could you come over, Josephine?" Suddenly, William waved at Josephine and asked her to go over to him. It seemed like he had some people he wanted to introduce to her.

Josephine stood up before saying apologetically, "Excuse me, Lizbeth. I'll be back in no time!"

"Oh! Go on!" Lizbeth nodded.

Since Jared and Lizbeth were alone at the table, he finally asked, "Ms. Grange, I suppose you have some questions for me?"

Although Lizbeth was taken aback, she questioned, "Are you responsible for what happened at the Whitaker residence?"

"Yes!" Jared answered without hesitation.

Jared's swift confession had caught Lizbeth completely off-guard. She was lost for words.

After seeing Lizbeth keeping mum, Jared asked, "Have you guys organized this just to get to me?"

"You're right!" Since Jared wasn't one to beat around the bush, Lizbeth didn't hold back either. "We're here to bring you back to Summerbank."

Jared then took a glance at everyone at the scene. It seems like there are less than ten officers from the Department of Justice. Besides, none of them look like they could fight.

"You're expecting to apprehend me with the people you currently have here? What if I refuse to comply? Are you going to take me by force?" Jared asked calmly without showing any hint of hostility.

Lizbeth was rendered speechless for a moment. Since this man can wipe out the whole of the Whitaker family, I'm sure we won't be able to bring him back on our own.

"Regardless of our chances, we must try our best because that's our responsibility!" Lizbeth was very determined.

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Wiped Out

With a faint smile on his face, Jared sipped his tea in silence.

"What are you two talking about?" Right then, Josephine had returned to the table.

"Oh! Nothing!" Lizbeth answered hastily.

Evidently, Lizbeth didn't want Josephine to know about it.

"Jared, Mr. Grange asked you to go over. I'll stay here to catch up with Lizbeth!" Josephine patted his shoulder.

"Oh, all right!" Jared nodded before walking toward Walter.

At that moment, Walter was alone with a middle-aged man at the table.

As soon as Jared arrived at the table, Walter immediately introduced him to Anthony, "Mr. Chance, this is General Anthony Long from the Department of Justice in Summerbank!"

"Hi, General Long!" Jared greeted respectfully.

In response, Anthony just nodded and gestured for Jared to take a seat.

"Mr. Chance, General Long had been asking about you. He's very impressed with you!" Walter exclaimed the moment Jared sat down.

"You didn't have to go through the trouble if you wanted to arrest me! Such a waste of money!" Jared chuckled coldly.

Both Walter and Anthony were utterly perplexed, albeit for different reasons.

"What are you talking about, Mr. Chance?" Walter was curious.

"I've wiped out the Whitaker family, and they're here to take me in!" Jared said it in a way as if wiping out the whole of the Whitaker family was something insignificant.

"So, it was you? You took out the Whitaker family?" Anthony questioned coldly.

"Yes. It was me. In fact, please let me know if there are any members of the Whitaker family that are still alive. I'll kill all of them!" It seemed like Jared had no intention of hiding anything.

"Well, I guess my job is done! Since you've already confessed, I'd need you to follow me back to Summerbank after dinner!" After saying that, Anthony suddenly unleashed a domineering wave of aura.

The man had a strong presence as the general of the Department of Justice.

Jared responded with a cold snort, "Do you think you're capable of doing that with the few people you have here?"

All of a sudden, Jared shivered slightly and unleashed a wave of murderous energy. With that, Anthony's aura disappeared almost instantaneously. All he could do was stare at Jared with bewilderment written all over his face.

"Please calm down, Mr. Chance!" Finally, Walter had caught up with what was going on with the two of them. He shifted his gaze toward Anthony and said, "If you're here for Mr. Chance, I'd suggest you leave now. There's no way you could apprehend him. Besides, the Whitaker family is reaping what they sow!"

"Mr. Grange?" Anthony stared at Walter in puzzlement.

Although he was the general of the Department of Justice, he dared not disrespect Walter, for he was his mentor. It was also because of Walter's influence that Lizbeth became Anthony's trusted personnel.

Walter then proceeded to inform Anthony about how Josephine was kidnapped. Also, he told him everything about how Kane brought his men over to Horington to kill Jared. As for what happened in Yeringham, Walter had no clue about what Jared did. Hence, he didn't reveal any information on that.

Anthony fell silent upon hearing Walter out. The atmosphere in the air grew more awkward by the second.

Meanwhile, Lizbeth and Josephine were chatting away happily.

"Josephine, how long have you known Jared?" Lizbeth suddenly asked.

Josephine pondered for a moment and answered, "I've known him for about two months!"

"Two months? And you both are already in a relationship? Do you know Jared well? Do you have an idea who he is exactly?" Lizbeth grew anxious when she found out that they'd only known each other for two months.

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A Faraway Place

At the sight of Lizbeth suddenly growing so emotional, Josephine inquired with puzzlement on her face, "What's wrong? Jared is really great! I know him well, and I've even met his parents."

"What do you know about him? Do you know that he's a murderer? He wiped out the Whitaker family! He's truly ruthless!" Lizbeth blurted the truth, no longer able to hold herself back.

However, regret swamped her when she had done so. After all, it wasn't appropriate for Josephine to know about such a thing.

She initially thought that Josephine would be shocked to learn about that. To her surprise, the latter remained calm and unruffled. Instead, she even admitted with a nod, "I know. He only did that because of me!"

"Because of you?" Mystification was written all over Lizbeth's face.

Josephine then recounted everything she had experienced, including the incident at Yeringham.

"How despicable of that Tyrion Whitaker! Death was indeed a fitting end for him!"

After hearing the entire story, Lizbeth was so incandescent that she slammed her fist onto the table.

"Lizbeth... Don't tell me you came to Horington this time to arrest Jared?" Josephine questioned as realization abruptly dawned upon her.

"[...]..."

Words eluded Lizbeth for a moment, and she didn't quite know how to answer her.

"Lizbeth, if you're here to arrest him, don't blame me for cutting ties with you. Besides, he was the one who saved Mr. Grange, so you can't repay his kindness with enmity!"

Josephine's expression turned a touch frosty.

"What? He saved Grandpa's life?" Lizbeth exclaimed.

I never knew that!

"Of course! Go and ask Mr. Grange if you don't believe me. However, I'm not sure about the specifics either."

Josephine merely heard Jared mentioning it every now and then, but she had no idea what exactly happened.

Meanwhile, a myriad of emotions roiled inside Lizbeth. If he really saved Grandpa, how could I do anything to him?

She got to her feet and headed over to Walter. Seeing that, Josephine hurriedly followed behind her.

Their arrival broke the awkward atmosphere between Jared and the others.

"Why did you both come over here, Lizbeth?" Walter inquired when he spotted them.

"Grandpa, is it true that Jared once saved your life?" Lizbeth asked, cutting straight to the chase.

"Of course! Not only did Mr. Chance save me, but he even once saved Mr. Lowe and even the hundreds of thousands of citizens of Horington!"

Walter knew that Jared helped to free Glen from the control of those few businessmen and thus said as much.

"What exactly is this about, Mr. Grange?"

Shock inundated Anthony, and he felt that the man was exaggerating too much. He even saved the hundreds of thousands of citizens of Horington?

"Let's have Mr. Lowe tell you all about this matter." After saying that, Walter ordered someone to invite Glen over.

Upon his arrival, Glen realized Walter's intention and so recounted the entire incident of how Jared helped him out.

That had Anthony and Lizbeth stunned and bewildered. After all, no one would easily believe such a bizarre story if they didn't witness it with their own eyes.

Nonetheless, they had no choice but to believe it when it was Glen telling them about it since the latter couldn't possibly be making up stories.

A long while passed before Anthony heaved a sigh and remarked, "Mr. Grange, even if we don't arrest Jared, the Jantz family will never let him go. That aside, everyone related to him will also likely be dragged into the mess. Zachariah Jantz vowed that he'll kill Jared's entire family."

The instant Anthony's words fell, everyone went silent. The Jantz family in Summerbank was known far and wide. Everyone knew of them, and the patriarch of the Jantz family was even an internal energy Grandmaster with

extraordinary capabilities. Considering the fact that Zachariah himself had spoken, this matter wasn't going to be resolved easily.

"In that case, can we leave? We'll go to a faraway place where the Jantz family can't find us!" Josephine fretted.

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Into The Den Of The Lion

From Josephine's question, it seemed that she had also heard of the Jantz family, and fear had taken her captive.

Alas, Anthony shook his head. "It's not that easy. Although Zachariah gave the Department of Justice three days, I know that he has long since sent men out to guard the various exits in Horington. He doesn't believe in the Department of Justice!"

"T-Then, what should we do?" Josephine started panicking.

Both Walter and Glen wore grim expressions as well. After all, Jared once saved their lives, yet they were of no help then. Even the Whitaker family didn't fear them, much less the Jantz family. Worse still, they didn't even have the right to speak to the patriarch of the Jantz family.

If Walter hadn't retired, he might be able to talk to the Jantz family, but his influence was all but gone by then.

"I'll go to Summerbank with you!" Jared stated out of the blue.

Everyone swung their gazes at him, and Josephine anxiously asserted, "You can't go, and I'm not going to allow you to do so! You haven't the slightest idea how powerful the Jantz family is!"

"Mr. Chance, the power of the Jantz family is far beyond that of the Whitaker family. In fact, it was all because of the Jantz family's backing that the Whitaker family could act high and mighty in Summerbank. At best, the Whitaker family was only involved in business, but the Jantz family is involved in martial arts. Zachariah Whitaker is even an internal energy Grandmaster,

his capabilities immeasurable! Therefore, you can't go!" Walter advised Jared, knowing quite a bit about the Jantz family.

In response, Jared merely smiled nonchalantly. "The Whitaker family has been obliterated. I don't mind wiping out the Jantz family as well."

"You're too arrogant, kid. Haven't you ever heard that there's always truth to a rumor? The Jantz family has a foundation of over a hundred years and isn't a family you can simply eliminate just because you said so."

A glimmer of disdain flittered across Anthony's eyes.

In the beginning, he had a good impression of Jared and admired him quite a bit after hearing that he saved Walter and Glen, but that remark had repulsion flooding him.

He felt that the man was being too supercilious at such a tender age.

"Time will prove whether I can wipe out the Jantz family!" Jared sneered.

"Okay, let time prove it then. Since you've agreed to follow us back to Summerbank, let's set out tomorrow. I can guarantee that no one will make a move against you during the trip there."

Anthony was initially caught between a rock and a hard place since the man once saved Walter and Glen, but he no longer had to be conflicted when the man decided to play hero then.

"Sure!" Jared nodded in acquiescence.

Subsequently, Jared enjoyed the meal. On the contrary, Josephine had no appetite and couldn't even stomach a single bite. Many a time, she wanted to dissuade him, but she swallowed the words on the tip of her tongue in the end. She knew his temperament, and no one could sway him when he had made his decision.

After the meal, Anthony had Lizbeth follow Jared and Josephine home in order to prevent Jared from taking off during the night. Lizbeth was Josephine's former classmate and good friend, so it was no inconvenience for her to stay with them. Furthermore, it was only for a night.

When they returned to the mansion at Dragon Summit, Josephine was down in the dumps. Lizbeth didn't know how she should comfort her either when her identity made things so awkward. Neither of them spoke, and the atmosphere turned oppressive.

Jared made two cups of coffee and handed them to Josephine and Lizbeth, appearing wholly relaxed.

"Why are you so depressed? This isn't some final farewell or something. I might be back from Summerbank in just a few days!" Jared commented with a smile at the sight of Josephine all downcast.

"Will you really not listen to me this once, Jared? Don't go to Summerbank. If worse comes to worst, we'll just wait in Horington. If the Jantz family comes to pick trouble, we can still give it a go. If you go to Summerbank, aren't you just walking into the lion's den?" Josephine implored with a beseeching expression.

"Do you think that's still possible?"

Jared flashed her a smile and cast a glance at Lizbeth.

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A Public Display Of Affection

Josephine likewise turned her gaze to Lizbeth. After all, the latter was there to keep an eye on Jared so as to prevent him from absconding or going into hiding.

As Lizbeth sensed the scorching gaze directed her way, embarrassment showed on her face. With the cup of coffee Jared brewed in her hands, she bit her lip and declared, "I-I'm a heavy sleeper and won't awaken even if there are any movements at night!"

The meaning of her words was plain as day—she was telling them both that they could make a run for it while she was sleeping at night.

At that, Jared abruptly chuckled. "Are you telling me that I can make a run for it during the night, Ms. Grange?"

"I... I didn't say that!" Lizbeth shot him a glare, her eyes brimming with censure that he actually put it in such blunt terms.

"Don't spout nonsense, Jared! Lizbeth didn't say that!" Josephine snapped, glowering at Jared as she also knew that Lizbeth was helping them.

All of a sudden, Jared burst into laughter. "Haha... Just catch up with each other since the two of you haven't seen each other in many years. Don't worry about my affairs. I can't possibly die when I haven't taken such a beauty to wife!"

Grasping Josephine's chin with a hand, he pecked her on the cheek without warning.

At once, Josephine's face flushed bright red. Lizbeth is still here, yet he dared kiss me?

"You're such a rogue, Jared!"

She pouted in feigned anger, but inwardly, elation suffused her.

Meanwhile, Lizbeth rolled her eyes in exasperation at the public display of affection that caught her off guard. Nevertheless, she was very much impressed by Jared's calmness, for he was still in the mood to fool around at such a time.

Just then, a figure rushed into the mansion out of the blue and hurried over to Jared, exclaiming, "Mr. Chance, I heard that some officers from the Department of Justice in Summerbank wish to arrest you and take you to Summerbank! Don't ever go! I've already gathered all my men, and over a thousand of them have sealed off the various exits. If those people from the Department of Justice dare to take you away, I'll ensure that none of them will be able to leave Horington!"

That person was none other than Tommy. Due to his injury, Jared wanted to let him rest, so he didn't tell him about the matter. However, someone informed him.

At the side, Lizbeth's expression turned frightfully dark at his words. After all, that was tantamount to insulting the Department of Justice right in front of her.

Nonetheless, she didn't dare say anything, for the man's remark of over a thousand men had her greatly stricken. If he really has more than a thousand men, then none of the dozen of people from the Department of Justice will be able to make it back!

Flashing Tommy a faint smile, Jared patted him on the shoulder and replied, "Go back. I'll be back after taking a trip to Summerbank. It'll also save me from having someone target my family all the time."

Tommy then glanced at Josephine and Lizbeth before pulling Jared to the side. "My Lord, if you insist on going to Summerbank, you can consider checking out the few gangs there. Perhaps there's also a regiment of the Dragon Sect there!"

There was no communication between the thirteen regiments of the Dragon Sect, so he had no idea where the other regiments were, nor was he acquainted with their members. Nevertheless, the other regiment heads would definitely recognize the Dragon Ring on Jared's finger. As long as there was a regiment of the Dragon Sect in Summerbank, it would be much more convenient for Jared if he needed anything.

Hearing that, Jared nodded. "Okay, I'll go and check them out when I arrive! Go back and rest. Although your injury is not life-threatening anymore, you still need to have more rest. I'll concoct another pill for you when I return from Summerbank so that your capabilities will go up another notch."

Tommy's face lit up. "Thank you, My Lord! If there's anything, inform me anytime. I'll rush to Summerbank with my men right away!"

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Beat You Up As Well

After seeing Tommy off, Jared gave a bitter chuckle as he stared at the Dragon Ring on his finger. Draco only gave me this without saying anything.

How am I supposed to go and find all those regiments? I'm not going to be so lucky each time as I did when I bumped into Tommy.

Early the following morning, Jared and Lizbeth set out. After meeting up with Anthony, the man had them both disguise themself before heading to Summerbank in order to prevent the Jantz family from attacking them during the journey.

He, on the other hand, led his team back in great pomp to snag the attention of the Jantz family.

With her driving, Lizbeth brought Jared to Summerbank without incident. Thankfully, they didn't encounter any danger throughout the drive.

"It's already noon, Ms. Grange. Since we're now in your territory, you should fulfill your obligation as the host and treat me to lunch!" Jared smilingly remarked from the passenger seat.

"Your death is imminent, yet you're still thinking about eating?" Lizbeth retorted in exasperation.

"Even if I'm going to die, I've got to do so on a full stomach. Life is but a blip in time, and everyone dies. It's just a matter of time. Thus, why be so bothered?"

Jared's wide smile had Lizbeth's nerves relaxing considerably.

"Considering the fact that you once saved my grandpa's life, I'll treat you to a meal! However, we can't go to a big restaurant. We can only patronize a small diner to avoid discovery by the Jantz family."

"Sure! We'll just have some local specialties, then!" Jared wasn't picky, so he had no opinion about that.

Lizbeth then parked the car at a parking lot, and they walked to a narrow alley filled with diners selling specialty snacks. While they were on the small side, they were all unique in their own ways.

"I'll bring you to try the venison burger in Summerbank. The venison burger in Horington isn't authentic. I'll ask for some intestines to be added to your burger later, and I guarantee you that you'll be clamoring for seconds!" Lizbeth exclaimed excitedly as soon as they entered the alley.

It seemed that all girls loved food, for they would all perk up when they came to such a place.

They had just taken a few steps when three burly men blocked their paths.

Taken aback, Jared studied them, only to discover that he didn't know them.

"You're Jared Chance, aren't you?" a burly man with thick chest hair demanded, his eyes pinned on Jared.

Judging from his figure and physique, it was evident that he must have trained in Impenetrable Skill.

Jared didn't reply to him but looked at Lizbeth beside him.

At that precise moment, Lizbeth's brows furrowed. She took a step forward and shielded him behind her. "Who are the lot of you? And why do you care whether he's Jared Chance?"

The burly man scrutinized her before ordering, "Step aside, little girl. This is none of your business! I'm Jason Yandell from the Iron Gate Academy, and I'm going to kill Jared Chance today to avenge my senior!"

While saying that, he wanted to make a move at Jared, but Lizbeth roared, "Stop! I'm an officer from the Department of Justice! How dare you violate the law before me?"

"So what if you're an officer from the Department of Justice? I'll beat you up as well if you don't step aside!"

Jason had a glacial expression on his face, not in the least bit bothered that Lizbeth was from the Department of Justice.

"How dare you?"

Lizbeth promptly flew into a rage. Never mind that Tommy Lewis looked down on the Department of Justice when I was in Horington, but someone else is doing the same even when I'm in my own territory in Summerbank? How utterly mortifying!

However, before she could say anything, Jason punched his fist out at her. Despite his sturdy frame, his speed was lightning fast. As it headed her way, a whizzing sound cut through the air.

Shock deluged Lizbeth, and she dared not allow herself to be distracted in the slightest. She dodged his blow with a sidestep before immediately punching him in the waist. When one was hit in that spot, one would lose the ability to move for a short time. That was also a technique favored by detectives.

Read A Man Like None Other & The Mans Decree Chapter 350

A Man Like None Other & The Mans Decree Chapter 350

Defending Oneself

Thud!

Lizbeth's punch packed a hit, and it emitted a dull thud when it struck Jason.

Just when she breathed a sigh of relief, she abruptly felt herself going weightless.

Blanching, she turned her gaze to Jason, only to see that he wasn't affected in the least. Her punch earlier seemingly had no effect on him.

"He trained in Impenetrable Skill, so how could that ineffectual blow of yours make him lose the ability to move?" Jared explained upon glimpsing the bafflement in her eyes.

The moment Lizbeth heard him, her expression turned as grim as ever. She swiftly grabbed Jason's wrist with a hand and twisted hard so that he would release her. Alas, no matter how much strength she exerted, she couldn't budge him.

"Buzz off!"

With a roar, Jason flung her away mercilessly.

"Ahh!" Lizbeth shrieked as she flew toward the wall at the side.

If I were to hit the wall, I'm going to suffer several broken bones even if I don't die!

When she was about to slam against the wall, Jared leaped up and snatched her out of the air. With a hard tug, he yanked her into his embrace.

Hugging her tight, he landed on the ground steadily.

Lizbeth breathed a long sigh of relief. But the second she sensed the heat emanating from him, she instantly snapped back to her senses. Her face flaming, she hissed, "Place me down, quick!"

Jared hurriedly put her down before clarifying with a mortified expression, "I wasn't trying to take advantage of you on purpose!"

Naturally, Lizbeth knew that he didn't do that deliberately but to save her. Despite that, men and women should maintain a distance between them. With a crowd there especially, she still went bright red in embarrassment at the inadvertent hug.

"Kid, you can continue flirting in hell!"

Bellowing, Jason shot his fist out at Jared.

Jared dodged with a twist of his body, but the man promptly swung his fist out again.

Still, he merely dodged without retaliating. Subsequently, he eyed Lizbeth and asked, "If I strike back now, will it be considered self-defense?"

Lizbeth was incensed right then, so she immediately answered upon hearing that question, "Of course! Kill him!"

"Sure!" The corners of Jared's mouth lifted. I was just waiting for that remark!

Staring at Jason's incandescent expression, he allowed the spiritual energy in his abdomen to circulate and gathered it in his fists. To combat the Impenetrable Skill, one had to focus one's energy in one place.

A faint mist started emanating from his fist before it enveloped his entire fist.

"What is that?"

When Jason saw the layer of mist on Jared's fist, he turned wary and solemn at once.

"Why don't you dare make a move anymore, idiot? If you're not going to act, I'll go first!"

Smirking, Jared leaped up without warning and passed right over his head.

Jason's expression changed. He frantically spun around and swung his fist toward his back, but it was already too late. Right then, Jared had already struck him in the back.

Thud! Thud! Thud!

He stumbled forward several steps and almost crashed to the ground before he could displace the force of the man's blow. Even then, he felt as though his internal organs had been rearranged.

Inhaling deeply, he forcibly suppressed the mouthful of blood that rushed up to his throat. Then, he glowered at the man hatefully. "Kid, never will I have the audacity to return to the Iron Gate Academy if I don't kill you today!"

After saying that, his body inflated, and a faint light shimmered around him. It wasn't all that obvious since it was daylight then, but one could still see a general outline. It resembled a gigantic bell, engulfing him entirely.